

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of the claims.

**Listing of Claims:**

1.-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) An article comprising recrystallized silicon carbide having a pore size of at least about 15  $\mu\text{m}$  with a pore surface area of less than about 0.04 m<sup>2</sup>/g, and comprising impurities at a concentration of less about 400 ppm, wherein the impurity is at least one of iron, copper, nickel, chromium and calcium.

15. (Cancelled)

16.-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 14, wherein the recrystallized silicon carbide further comprises inert impurities.

24. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 14, wherein the article is a wafer boat.

25.-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously Presented) A wafer boat comprising recrystallized silicon carbide having pores interconnected to form a network and comprising an active impurity component at a concentration of less than 1 ppm, wherein the active impurity component is one of iron, copper, nickel, chromium, and calcium.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 30 wherein the pores have a pore size of at least about 15  $\mu\text{m}$ .
33. (Previously Presented) An article comprising a recrystallized silicon carbide member having an interconnected network of pores that have a pore size of at least about 5  $\mu\text{m}$  and comprising ~~impurities at a concentration of less than about 400 ppm~~ a nickel concentration at or below 5 ppm.
34. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 33, wherein the silicon carbide member is free of free silicon.
35. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 33, wherein the silicon carbide member has a Fe concentration at or below 2 ppm.
36. (Cancelled)
37. (Cancelled)
38. (Withdrawn) A ceramic article comprising:  
    recrystallized silicon carbide having an interconnected network of pores with a pore size of at least about 5  $\mu\text{m}$ ; and  
    an oxide layer on at least a portion of at least one surface of the ceramic article,  
    wherein the recrystallized silicon carbide has an impurity selected from the consisting of iron, copper, nickel, chromium, and calcium, at a concentration of less than 1 ppm.
39. (Withdrawn) The ceramic article of claim 38, wherein the recrystallized silicon carbide is free of free silicon.

40. (Withdrawn) The ceramic article of claim 38, wherein the recrystallized silicon carbide has a pore surface area of less than about  $0.04 \text{ m}^2/\text{gr}$ .

41. (Withdrawn) The ceramic article of claim 38, wherein the oxide layer comprises aluminum oxide.